

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Fig. 2 is proposed to be amended to add reference numeral 1 thereto to conform to page 4, line 6, of the specification. Fig. 3 is proposed to be amended to change reference numeral 8 to 8a, conforming to page 4, line 19, of the specification. A replacement sheet of drawings, showing Figs. 2 and 3, as proposed to be amended, is enclosed.

Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Kosak, U.S. Patent No. 6,565,159. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

New independent claim 7 has been added, and independent claim 1 has been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2-6 have been amended so that they are directly or indirectly dependent upon independent claim 7. New independent claim 7 provides, in part, for:

A connection between a wheel bearing and a wheel carrier comprising:

connecting elements only connecting the wheel carrier and a fixed part of the wheel bearing; ...

the fixed part of the wheel bearing structured to couple to a brake caliper.

Thus, in claim 7, "only the wheel carrier and a fixed part of the wheel bearing," (emphasis supplied), are connected by the connecting elements. In contrast, shoulder 33 in Kosak, (column 2, lines 65-66), which the Examiner equates to the connecting elements in former claim 1, (Office Action, page 3, paragraph 4, lines 5-6), is included in a spindle 30, (column 2, lines 56-57; Fig. 3). Spindle 13, shown as a part of a suspension system, (Fig. 1), is supported by wheel carrier 12 and "wheel hub 14 is mounted to spindle 13 by means of a grease seal 15, bearings 16 and 17, an adjusting nut 18, a nut retainer 19, a cotter pin 20, and a grease cap 21," (column 2, lines 26-29).

In addition, in Kosak any brake caliper is coupled by bosses on the wheel carrier, according to the Examiner, (Office Action, page 3, paragraph 4, lines 18-20). In contrast, claim 7 provides that the fixed part of the wheel bearing is structured to couple to the brake caliper.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claim 7 is allowable over Kosak. Furthermore, since claims 2-6 ultimately depend from claim 7, it is respectfully

submitted that these claims are allowable over Kosak for at least the same reasons. Therefore, the allowance of claims 2-7 is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

-DRAFT-

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